

#4/11-2603  
V. Jones



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2549

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Daisuke TAKEDA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2133  
Application No.: 09/816,165 ) ) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: March 26, 2001 )  
For: DECODING APPARATUS AND )  
DECODING METHOD )

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOV 13 2003

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. Applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application, to the undersigned representative's knowledge at the time this paper was filed. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, Applicants enclose a European Search Report issued in counterpart European Patent Application No. 01302747.9 setting forth the relevance of the attached documents.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists, and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any

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claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

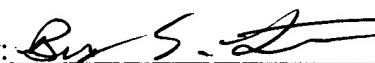
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
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Dated: November 12, 2003

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